GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3038
ANSWERED ON:16.03.2001
EXPORT OF TEA TO PAKISTAN
GOWDAR MALLIKARJUNAPPA

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether representative of Indian tea industry have visited Pakistan between December, 2000 January, 2001 for discussion with the representatives of Pakistan Tea Association for exporting tea to Pakistan;

(b) if so, whether Pakistan is keen to import India`s tea;

(c) if so, the total quantity of tea exported to Pakistan by India during the current year and proposed for 2001-2002; and
(d) the extent to which Pakistan is becoming a major importer of Indian tea ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH)

(a) : Representatives of Indian Tea industry led by Chairman, Indian Tea Association visited Pakistan in February, 2001 for discussion with the representatives of Pakistan Tea Association with a view to promote export of tea to Pakistan.

(b) : According to the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between Pakistan Tea Association and the Indian Tea Association, Pakistan will import 7 to 10 mn. kgs of tea from India during the year 2001and gradually increase the purchase by 10%-15% annually.

(c) : The total quantity of tea exported to Pakistan by India during the year 2000-2001 for the period April to December has been estimated at 2.94 mn. kgs as against 0.10 mn. kgs exported in the corresponding period of the last financial year. Based on the recent development in tea trade with Pakistan, it is expected that export of Indian tea to Pakistan may be around 7 to 10 mn. kgs in the year 2001-02.

(d) : Pakistan is importing tea on an average of 110-115 mn. kgs per annum from various tea producing countries. Exports of tea from India to Pakistan during the years 1997, 1998 & 1999 were 1.31 mn. kgs, 2.77 mn. kgs and 0.48 mn. kgs respectively. Keeping in view the large size of the market, if the agreement reached between Pakistan Tea Association and Indian Tea Association is fulfilled then Pakistan may become one of the major importers of Indian tea.